ODD ESSAY

THE ODD ESSAY

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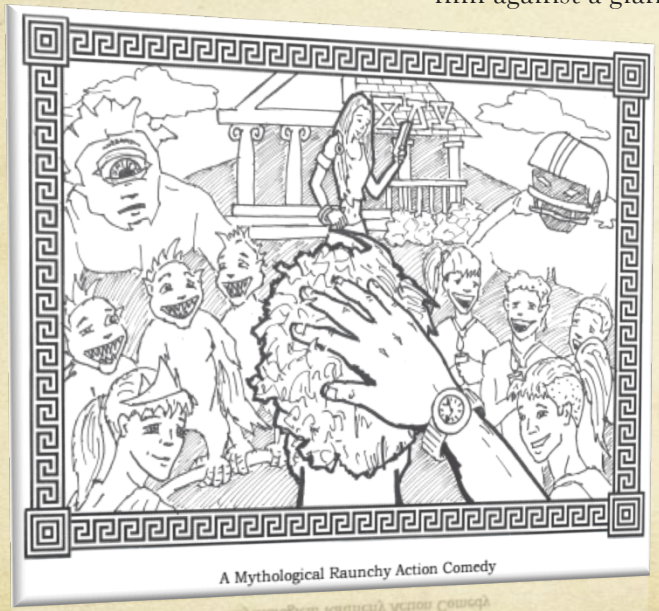
SYNOPSIS

This is the story of one kid named Desmond, on his first night of college. When the stars align he discovers that he has the chance to lose his virginity tonight. All he has to do is make it to this party on the other side of campus where his dream girl; Penny resides... But the journey will be a lot tougher than anyone could have imagined.

This story will be a retelling of The Odyssey on a college campus. When the world sees a fence our protagonist sees the Trojan wall. When he bumps into a giant football player, we see a Cyclops that he pokes in the eye to escape. Everything that happened to Odysseus in his tale, will have a comedic, fun and action packed correlation to Dez's new life at school, culminating in a fight for Desmond's manhood in order to become the hero he envies so much and if we're lucky, we might just have a few laughs along the way.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The Odd Essay is a completely unique approach to the very familiar concept of 'the college comedy.' Our effort to take 'Greek life' and turn it into actual 'Greek life' has found hilarious success in the blend of our real and imaginary worlds. By starting in a familiar arena such as a college comedy, we can take our hero(Desmond) and pit him against a giant football player bully.



A concept seen countless times before with school based comedies. But instead of just escaping a football player, we get to have our hero run away from a 50-foot-tall Cyclops that gets poked in the eye. Rather than a typical teen who encounters a glee club in his exploits, we get to venture into the hypnotically dangerous lair of the sirens. Time and again we've found fun and comedic ways of mirroring the epic tale of *The Odyssey* in a goofy yet exciting manner on a college campus. From the magic of Circe and our real world president of the magic club; Cici. To the swim team's pursuit of Desmond and their Greek counterpart Poseidon, we found inventive and imaginative ways of echoing all the elements of the greatest story ever told;

The Odyssey.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Our use of college comedy archetypes and unique approach to action comedy resulted in creating what we believe to be an original concept, with a familiar undertow. From a marketability standpoint we are able to bank on the ever growing niche audience, in that of a raunchy college comedy.

However, we have expanded upon this audience to add a more mainstream viewer with our Greek elements. There are countless viewers who read *The Odyssey* in 5th grade and we believe that this film will make each and every one of them sit back and say 'Oh yeah… that sounds a little familiar…. Clever.' This is something never before done, it's new, it's original and we believe this unique take on a familiar concept is a sure fire success story in the making.

CAST

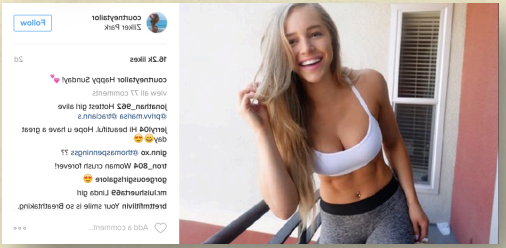
The Odd Essay's cast is the strength and backbone of the future success this team has all but guaranteed. From Desmond and his witty dynamic with his two best friends, to the next big thing we've found in our leading lady. From top to bottom we feel confident that from a casting standpoint our team knocked it out of the park. The leading 'best friend' role played by Lilan Bowden was just picked up to series by Disney, while Troy Doherty our protagonist has found himself the leading man in three feature films this year set to release in the coming months including *Hickey* which just agreed to their distribution deal set to unfold soon. Alongside supporting actors headlined by Gabby from The Gabby Show with her 4.7 million Vine followers and 2.2 million YouTube followers, our cast found tremendous hilarity and true marketing potential ready to be exploited.

ESTABLISHED AUDIENCE OF OVER 7-MILLION EXPOSED

GABBY HANNA

4.2 Million Vine Followers
2.2 Million YouTube Followers

COURTNEY TAYLOR



950k Instagram Followers

LILAN BOWDEN

New Disney Series *Andi Mack*,
From the creator of *Lizzie McGuire*

The Odd Essay has found a tremendous balance in its effort to find the perfect comedic and heartfelt cast positioned against its' marketability and wide reaching possibilities. The film has leading people on the cusp of stardom set to become widely recognized names coupled with some of the most notable social media influencers today. This potential audience of over 7.3 million people who could be exposed to our project thanks to the cast is one of the more clever exploits of the project's efforts from start to finish. Before a dime of marketing efforts is spent, there will be people exposed to our project with a built in marketing effort backing the unique nature of our film.

PRODUCTION STILLS

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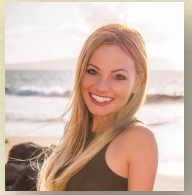
THE ODD ESSAY – CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

TOM WATTS, WRITER / DIRECTOR

Tom has recently completed his feature directorial film, *The Odd Essay*, set to release in early 2017. Tom was able to complete this project thanks to his filmmaking education as an MFA Graduate of the world famous USC School of Cinematic Arts. There, Tom was mentored by some of the most influential directors of our time while gaining experience on set in a variety of areas. Including his extensive AD training culminating in his most recent work as the First AD for the James Franco feature film *Blood Heist*. Tom is currently attached to direct his next feature film, a situational comedy, in the later stages of Spring 2017, in addition to co-directing the James Franco feature film adaptation of Tom Sawyer at the beginning of next year. Tom has dozens of projects in various stages of development working as a writer & director in the efforts to maintain his quick rise in the industry.

CHRIS ABERNATHY, PRODUCER

Chris Abernathy is an Los Angeles based film producer. He received his Masters in Fine Arts from the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts and his undergraduate degree in journalism from the University of Oregon. The Odd Essay is the fifth feature film produced by Chris. His previous film are *Pearblossom Highway*, Stephen Tobolowski, *The Outdoorsman* staring SNL's Sasheer Zamata and Brent Morin, *Only Humans* staring Peri Gilpin and *Actor's Anonymous*, based on the novel by James Franco starring Franco and Eric Roberts. He is currently developing another feature film for Franco's production company, Rabbit Bandini called "If I Don't Six" based on the novel by Elwood Reid.



SIENA OBERMAN, PRODUCER

Siena is a producer and entrepreneur that studied at USC's School of Business and School of Cinematic Arts. Specializing in solving the evolving puzzle between technology, storytelling, and distribution, Siena enjoys disrupting traditional business models for content. After leading research as USC's Cinematic Honors Fraternity Futurist, her last two short films premiered in Cannes Film Festival and found unique distribution with Hulu. This is Siena's second feature film following her last film with Rabbit Bandini (starring Camilla Belle and James Franco). Outside of her indie producing, Siena has learned from the best in entertainment during past employment with Paramount Pictures, United Talent Agency, IM Global, Route One Films, and Plan B Entertainment. Outside of work Siena has won the Volunteer of the Year award with the American Red Cross and enjoys surfing with friends.